





## Israeli attack dogs led assault that killed Hamas chiefs

TEL AVIV (AFP) — Israeli special forces used attack dogs to lead the raid that killed two Hamas chiefs last week and only shot the militants when they raised their weapons at the animals, a senior officer said Sunday.

Releasing the first details of the killing Thursday of brothers Adel and Imad Awadallah, Major General Moshe Yaalon strongly denied Israeli press reports that the two Islamists were summarily executed while they slept in an isolated West Bank farmhouse.

"The order was to try to arrest them," he told a briefing for foreign reporters. But he said the two men were armed and the raiding police "were forced to fire and kill them."

"I would have preferred to arrest them in order to be able to interrogate them," he said. Yaalon, who heads the army command responsible for the West Bank and personally directed Thursday's operation, acknowledged for the first time that Israel believed the two militants in the farmhouse were the Awadallah brothers even before the raid.

"We didn't know for sure both of them were there, but we had our suspicions because of their behaviour," he said. Adel Awadallah, 31, was the chief of the military wing of Hamas in the West Bank, seconded by Imad, 27.

They were among Israel's most wanted men for organising a spate of attacks inside Israel and against Israelis in the occupied territories.

Yaalon said Israeli security forces were drawn to their hideout in the village of Taybeh near Hebron by sounds of gunfire and explosions reported in the area on Wednesday.

Agents kept the house under surveillance for two days, spotting two men armed with pistols and grenades walking around the building.

Yaalon said he ordered an assault after the owner of the house was arrested driving away from the property Thursday afternoon and told interrogators the two men inside had just eaten and were preparing to take a nap.

A unit of special forces from the paramilitary border police charged the building behind attack dogs sent in to divert the suspects' attention, he said. "They tried to shoot the dogs and our men killed them," he said.

The Awadallah brothers were each armed with a pistol and an automatic weapon at the time and had not been sleeping, he said. Yaalon declined to confirm or deny press reports that Palestinian security forces helped the Israelis track down the Awadallah brothers.

Such reports were fuelled by the fact that Imad Awadallah

had been arrested by Palestinian police earlier this year but broke out of jail on Aug. 15 in unclear circumstances.

Asked if the Palestinians may have let Imad escape or cooperated in helping Israeli forces track him to his brother, Yaalon simply said that the security forces from the two sides had worked together in the past but that "this collaboration should be secret in the interests of both sides."

However a senior army intelligence official speaking on condition of anonymity categorically denied that Palestinian police had played any role in locating the Awadallahs.

Yaalon said Israel was taking seriously threats by Hamas to avenge the Awadallahs, but noted that the West Bank branch of the movement's armed wing had been seriously weakened by the brothers' slaying and a series of other recent setbacks.

He identified the most dangerous Hamas militant still at large in the West Bank as Mahmud Abu Hanud, from the Nablus area, while the movement's military chief in the Gaza Strip, Mohammad Deif, was also still operative.

The general said Israel would bury the Awadallah brothers since a funeral in their home town of Ramallah would likely spark violent protests.



GUERRILLAS MARCH AT REFUGEE CAMP: Masked Palestinian guerrillas march Sunday during a military parade held in the Ain Al Hilweh Palestinian refugee camp near the port city of Sidon in south Lebanon. Some 250 Palestinian radical guerrillas held a military parade to protest the fifth anniversary of the September 13, 1993 Oslo peace deal that was signed on the White House lawn with then Prime Minister Rabin, Yasser Arafat and President Bill Clinton (Reuters photo)

## JPA threatens suspensions for non-paying members

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Jordan Pharmacists Association has threatened to suspend the membership of 1,300 members for not paying their membership fees, JPA President Abdul Rahim Issa said Sunday.

"The general assembly of the association decided Saturday to give the dodgers a grace period of one month starting Saturday, Sept. 12, before cancelling their membership," said Issa.

He said the association will not be lenient with those who do not pay their dues to the Social Security Fund and Pension Fund. He added that members' payments to those two institutions are behind by JD500,000.

According to Article 50 of the association's law, a member loses his/her membership if he/she does not pay the required fees for six consecutive months and after receiving a warning. A defaulting member also loses all the saving funds he/she has accrued.

## Key Iran official survives assassination attempt

TEHRAN (R) — The head of a powerful Iranian state foundation survived an assassination attempt Sunday, the official news agency IRNA reported.

It said unknown gunmen opened fire on Mohsen Rafiqdoust from hills overlooking his office in north Tehran.

"He was not hurt at all and is in full health," the agency reported after interviewing Rafiqdoust, a former minister.

"I came to my office as usual this morning and, as I was working, the room came under fire through the window behind me," the agency quoted Rafiqdoust as saying.

"This terrorist act shows that anti-revolutionary elements had worked a long time on their evil plan. But, thanks to God, they were not successful," Rafiqdoust was quoted as saying.

State television showed footage of the office, with what appeared to be bullet holes in a window pane and a ceiling or wall panel.

The attempt on Rafiqdoust, a veteran political figure in the Islamic Republic, followed the assassination last month of Iran's former prison director, Assadollah Lajevardi.

The Iraq-based Iranian armed opposition group Mujahideen Khalq claimed responsibility for killing Lajevardi, accusing him of being responsible for the torture and execution of political prisoners.

The Mujahideen, which has often launched cross-border raids into Iran from Iraq, has stepped up attacks inside Iran in recent months. It was designated by the United States as a foreign "terrorist" organisation last year.

Rafiqdoust, 58, heads the Bonyad-e Mostazafan va Janbazan (Foundation of the Deprived and War Disabled) which is Iran's top economic conglomerate. It controls most hotels and hundreds of firms, including many industrial plants.

The foundation was set up after the 1979 Islamic revolution with properties seized from the late Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi and other leaders of the old regime.

Originally formed as a welfare agency to help the poor, the state-affiliated foundation was later also assigned the duty of caring for the disabled from the 1980-88 Iran-Iraq war. Its head is named by Iran's supreme leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei.

Rafiqdoust, a leading conservative, formerly served as minister of the Revolutionary Guards when the guards were run as a separate ministry.

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## Sudan receives foreign aid for flood victims

KHARTOUM (R) — Relief supplies from at least three Arab countries have started to arrive in Sudan, where officials say floods spilling into 12 of the country's 26 states have affected 10 million people, newspapers said Sunday.

The privately-owned Al Rai Al Aam daily said an Egyptian plane arrived at Khartoum airport on Friday carrying 32 tonnes of tents and jute sacks for making sandbags.

It said Egypt was expected to send another plane on Sunday with more tents, medicine and a team of Egyptian doctors.

On Saturday, state television showed two Libyan planes landing at Dongola airport in northern state. It said they had brought medicine, tents and food, but gave no quantities.

The Libyan flights violated an air embargo imposed on Libya by the United Nations in 1992 for failing to hand over two Libyan suspects in the 1988 bombing of a Pan Am airliner over the Scottish

town of Lockerbie.

Last month Libya sent a plane of medicine to Sudan after a U.S. missile strike destroyed a Khartoum medicine plant which Washington said was producing a nerve gas component.

Sudanese television said a charity organisation in Qatar had sent flood relief aid to Sudan. It quoted Hassan Dahawi, state minister in the Social Planning Ministry, as saying the goods had been transferred to 10 trucks for the journey north.

The health ministry says 10 million people, or 38 per cent of the population, have been affected by Sudan's worst floods since 1988.

Khartoum newspapers Sunday quoted Health Ministry Undersecretary Bashir Mukhtar as saying the ministry required 15 billion pounds (\$7.1 million) to prevent epidemics of dysentery and malaria in flood-hit areas over the next three months.

## Nine killed in Algerian bombing

ALGIERS (R) — Three home-made bombs exploded Sunday in different parts of Algeria, killing five people, and a "terrorist" attack killed four others, APS news agency said.

Six other people were wounded in the three blasts, it said.

Quoting a security forces statement, APS said two bombs went off in Meslem and Sidi Bouzid hamlets, some 350 kilometres south of Algiers.

The agency said the first exploded in Meslem at 7.30 a.m. local time and

killed two people, while the other went off at the same time in Sidi Bouzid, killing two and wounding another.

A third bomb exploded at around 12.40 local time near a coffee shop in Constantine commune, 350 kilometres east of Algiers. One person died and five were wounded, according to a preliminary report, APS said.

APS said four more people were killed "in a cowardly manner" Saturday night in Chlef province, 170 kilometres west of Algiers. It said the four

were murdered on a countryside road "by a group of terrorists."

The official media usually use the word "terrorist" to describe Islamists.

No independent sources were available for comment on the fresh wave of violence in Algeria's long-running strife pitting Islamists against the military-backed government.

The bomb blasts were the first since President Liamine Zerroual announced Friday night a decision to hold early presidential elections in February 1999.

## PKK withdraws ceasefire – report

ANKARA (AFP) — The separatist Kurdistan rebel organisation, the PKK, has withdrawn its unilateral ceasefire two weeks after it came into force and vowed to step up attacks in Turkey, a Turkish newspaper reported Sunday.

"They [Turkey] did not abide by the truce we declared," the Turkish

Daily News quoted PKK leader Abdullah Ocalan as saying on the pro-PKK television channel Med-TV, broadcasting from Europe.

"We have developed new war tactics and will intensify our attacks," the rebel leader said.

Ocalan announced an unconditional and unilater-

al ceasefire in August that was to come into effect on September 1 and last until Turkish elections in April.

The Turkish government and army rejected the truce, accusing the PKK of trying to gain time to regroup its weakened forces and calling on Ocalan to surrender.

Clashes in Turkey's southeast continued in Sep-

tember despite the truce offer.

The outlawed PKK has conducted an armed rebellion against Ankara in the predominantly Kurdish southeast of Turkey since 1984 with the aim of creating an independent Kurdish state.

More than 30,000 people have died in the violence.

## Israel's electronics group Elscint sells two divisions to foreign investors

TEL AVIV (AFP) — Israel's electronics group Elscint on Sunday said it had sold two of its divisions to Britain's General Electric Company (GEC) and U.S.-based General Electric

Corporation (GE) for \$375 million. Elscint will sell its division specialising in nuclear medicine and magnetic resonance imaging to GE Medical Systems, a subsidiary of

GE, for \$100 million. The group will also sell its computer tomography division to GEC Picker International, a GEC subsidiary, for \$275 million. Elscint, which is main-

ly involved in medical imaging, had a \$311 million turnover last year, 83 per cent of which came from exports. The group announced a net profit of \$2.7 million over the same period.

### JORDAN TELEVISION

PROGRAMME TWO

15:10 ...Cartoon — Highlander  
15:30 Drama — The Clinic From Down Under  
16:00 ...Drama — Neighbours  
16:30 ...Drama — Last Frontier  
17:00 ...Flood Programme — Tadous  
18:00 ...Drama — Sea Quest  
19:00 ...Le Journal  
19:15 French Programme — Science Actualities  
19:30 ...News Headlines  
19:35 ...Comedy — H.P. and Gloria  
20:00 ...Prospective  
20:30 ...World Net  
21:10 ...Good Guys, Bad Guys  
22:00 ...News in English  
22:30 ...Miniseries — Touching Evil  
23:29 ...End of T.N.

### PRAYER TIMES

04:55 ...Fajr  
06:14 ...Sunrise, Doha  
12:31 ...Dhuhr  
16:03 ...Asr  
18:49 ...Maghrib  
20:07 ...Isha

### CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church  
Swerdloff, Tel. 5925741  
Assemblies of God Church Tel. 4632785  
St. Joseph Church Tel. 4624581  
Terza Sancta Church Tel. 4632366

## JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

American Church Tel. 4624534/4624541  
St. Arian Syrian Orthodox Church Tel. 4771751  
Amman International Church Tel. 5057007  
German-speaking Evangelical Congregation Tel. 5082404  
The Evangelical Local Church in Amman Tel. 581295  
Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints Tel. 4634932  
St. John the Baptist at De la Salle College Tel. 561757  
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 4637440  
Greek Orthodox Church Tel. 468136  
Church of Presentation, Swedish Tel. 5920145  
The United Catholic Church Tel. 4624757  
The English-Langauge Catholic Parish Tel. 4614100  
Evangelical Free Church Tel. 5826700  
The Baptist Church Tel. 4628652  
The Armenian Catholic Church 4771231  
The Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 4775201

Temperatures are expected to rise slightly with clouds appearing in low altitudes particularly in the northern parts of the Kingdom, and winds westerly moderate. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.

Min/Max temp.  
Amman 17/31  
Aqaba 25/39  
Deserts 16/35  
Jordan Valley 24/38  
Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 29 Aqaba 38 Humidity readings: Amman 45 per cent, Aqaba 41 per cent.

Following are the highest temperatures expected today in the following areas:  
Ajloun 27  
Jerash 32  
Um Qays 33  
Mudaba 32  
Petra 34  
Dead Sea 39

### USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

NIGHT DUTY  
AMMAN:  
Dr. Khalil Tassug 4757253

Dr. Bahjat Bader 5332642  
Dr. Nasser Ibrahim 5350432  
Dr. Wadi Qadumi 4893542  
Firas pharmacy 5661912  
Al Asema pharmacy 5347632  
Nairoukh pharmacy 4623672  
Al Salam pharmacy 4636730  
Yacoub pharmacy 4644945  
Shmeisani pharmacy 4637660  
Najib pharmacy 5347632  
IBRID:  
Dr. Ghazi Ta'ameh 250080  
Dr. Quds pharmacy (—)  
ZARQA:  
Dr. Walid Nabhan 3851743  
Khalifeh pharmacy 985417

### EMERGENCIES

Food Control Centre 4637111  
Civil Defence Department 5661111  
Civil Defence Immediate Rescue 4630341  
Civil Defence Emergency 199  
Rescue Police 192 4621111 4637777  
Fire Brigade 4617101  
Blood Bank 4775121  
Highway Police 5343402  
Traffic Police 4896390  
Public Security Dept. 4620321  
Hotel Complaints 5605800  
Price Complaints 5661176  
Water & Sewerage Complaints 4897467  
Amman Municipality Complaints 4787111

Telephone Information (directory assistance) 121  
Overseas Calls 010230  
Central Amman Telephone:  
Repairs 4623101  
Abdali Tel. Repairs 5661101  
Al Hikma Modern Hospital 01999099  
IBRID:  
Princess Basma Hospital 02275555  
J. Electricity Authority 4636381  
Electric Power Co. 4636381  
RJ Flight Information 44-53200  
Queen Alia Int. Airport 44-53200

### HOSPITALS

AMMAN:  
The Arab Centre for Heart and Special Surgery 5921199  
The Islamic, Abdali 5661317  
Hussain Medical Centre 5856856  
Luzarka 4630195  
Khalidi Maternity 46428116  
Akileh Maternity 46424112  
Jabal Amman Maternity 4642362  
Malhas, J. Amman 4636140  
Palestine, Shmeisani 5607071  
Shmeisani Hospital 5669131  
University Hospital 5353444  
Al-Muasher Hospital 56672779  
Al-Ahli, Abdali 56641646  
Italian, Al-Muhajreen 47711013  
Al-Bashir 4775111/26  
Army, Marka 4891611/15  
Queen Alia Hospital 5602240/50  
Amal Hospital 4891611/15

ZARQA:  
Zarqa Govt. Hospital 09983323  
Zarqa National Hospital 09900561  
Ibn Sina Hospital 09986732  
Al Hikma Modern Hospital 01999099  
IBRID:  
Princess Basma Hospital 02275555  
J. Electricity Authority 4636381  
Electric Power Co. 4636381  
RJ Flight Information 44-53200  
Queen Alia Int. Airport 44-53200

### FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT  
This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information departments at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (44)53200-5, where it should always be verified. Information on other flights can be supplied on phone 44 (52700).

### ARRIVALS

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights  
08:05 ...Sana'a (RJ)  
09:30 ...Jeddah (RJ)  
09:30 ...Damascus (RJ)  
09:45 ...New Delhi (RJ)

10:20 ...Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)  
10:55 ...Beirut (RJ)  
17:00 ...Cairo (RJ)  
17:30 ...London (RJ)  
17:40 New York, Amsterdam (RJ)  
18:15 ...Istanbul (RJ)  
18:45 ...Kuwait (RJ)  
19:40 ...Casablanca, Tunis (RJ)  
21:45 ...Bangkok, Sharjah (RJ)  
02:55 Jakarta, Kuala Lumpur (RJ)  
03:00 ...Doha (add) (RJ)

### Other Flights

10:30 ...Cairo (MS)  
14:10 ...Bahrain (GF)  
15:05 ...Vienna (OS)  
15:40 ...Doha (QR)  
15:45 ...Khartoum (SD)  
18:40 ...Beirut (ME)  
19:05 ...Frankfurt (LH)  
19:45 ...Dubai (EK)  
22:15 ...Istanbul (SD)  
22:25 ...Tel Aviv (LY)  
23:45 ...Athens, Beirut (OA)  
01:30 Amsterdam, Damascus (EK)

### Royal Wings (RW)

10:20 Aqaba (arriving at QAIA and proceeding to Marka Airport) (RW)  
18:00 Aqaba (arriving at Marka Airport) (RW)  
22:15 Tel Aviv (arriving at QAIA) (RW)  
23:25 Aqaba (arriving at Marka Airport) (RW)

### DEPARTURES

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights  
07:15 ...Beirut (RJ)  
08:00 Dhahran, New Delhi (add) (RJ)  
11:45 ...Frankfurt, London (RJ)  
12:20 Amsterdam, Chicago (RJ)  
12:30 ...Istanbul (RJ)  
12:45 ...Kuwait (RJ)  
13:15 ...Cairo (RJ)  
21:00 ...Doha (add) (RJ)  
21:15 ...Bahrain, Doha (RJ)  
21:40 ...Damascus (RJ)  
22:05 ...Dubai, Muscat (RJ)  
23:25 ...Al 'Ain, Abu Dhabi (RJ)  
23:25 ...Tehran (RJ)  
23:45 ...Sana'a (RJ)

### Other Flights

06:15 ...Istanbul (TK)  
06:35 ...Larnaca (CY)  
07:30 ...Paris (AF)  
08:20 ...London (AF)  
11:30 ...Cairo (MS)  
15:00 ...Bahrain (GF)  
15:50 ...Vienna (OS)  
16:30 ...Doha (QR)  
16:45 ...Istanbul (SD)  
20:00 ...Beirut (ME)  
20:45 ...Dubai (EK)  
23:10 ...Tel Aviv (LY)  
23:15 ...Khartoum (SD)  
02:30 ...Amsterdam (KL)

### Royal Wings (RW)

08:00 Aqaba (from Marka Airport) (RW)  
09:30 Aqaba (from Marka Airport) (RW)  
20:45 Tel Aviv (from QAIA) (RW)  
21:30 ...Aqaba (from QAIA) (RW)















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## New era for Russia

THE CONFIRMATION of Yevgeny Primakov as the new Russian prime minister by the Russian Duma on Friday offers hopes for the country to forge national unity that has eluded it since the collapse of the communist order. By endorsing Primakov's appointment with an overwhelming majority, 317 votes against only 63, the Duma, which twice rejected President Boris Yeltsin's previous choice, Viktor Chernomyrdin, is encouraging solidarity in favour of the new prime minister. Dubbed as a compromise candidate, Primakov enjoys the respect and trust of communists who remain in control of the Duma. While committed to continue the reforms already under way in the country, the new premier has called for a "reformed reform" movement in the country that would take into consideration a variety of factors including the obvious need for a greater state role in running the collapsing economy.

With the country's currency plummeting and the economic recession deepening, there is growing evidence that following blindly the notion of free market economy in a nation that has no tradition in private enterprise would prove unsuccessful. Primakov was quick to say, to the satisfaction of the majority of Russians that "the government should intervene in economic affairs and regulate them." He hastened to add, however, that the return to some state control did not signal the return to a regimented state-run economy.

The appointment of Viktor Gerashchenko, an old-hand Soviet banking official, to head the Russian Central Bank is also a clear signal of rising dissatisfaction with wild capitalism that characterised the nation's economy over the past few years. The new thrust in Moscow it seems is to establish a national unity government representing the country's various trends and ideologies. As Yeltsin said after the appointment of Primakov, a major crisis was avoided by compromise between the conflicting political and economic forces.

For the Middle East, the endorsement of Primakov, an expert on the Arab-Israeli conflict, could mean an independent Russian policy on peace-making in the region — certainly a big relief. The peace process has so far suffered many setbacks because of Russia's near abandonment of its role as a co-sponsor of the process together with the U.S. Primakov is therefore expected to pay greater attention to the problem facing the Arab World including Iraq.

The entire new order should gain from the rise of Russia from the ashes of the collapse of the former Soviet order. A strong Russia would add an important element to world and regional security.

## ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

Al Ra'i's Fahed Faneh called on the Syrian leadership to reconsider its policy towards Jordan and stop the propaganda campaign which will not turn Jordan into another Lebanon. The writer lashed out at Syria for sending dirty water to Jordan. He said Jordan and Syria are brothers, and it is not in their interests to behave antagonistically toward each other. Good relations are good for both countries, said the writer. The Turkish visit to the region carried a message to the Syrian leadership — Turkey can deal with any country in the Arab World and deal with it without Syria. The Turkish move will make Syria feel isolated in the region, added the writer. Turkey never considered including Jordan in a political coalition, because Ankara understands that Jordan cannot help it in its war with Syria. Iraq or Greece, added Faneh.

Al Dustour, in its editorial, slammed Israel for killing Adel and Imad Awadallah, members of the Islamic Resistance Movement (Hamas). The Arabic daily said Israel intended to kill the two brothers at this stage in order to kill what is left of the peace process. Israel started a war against the peace process, and what happened is only the beginning of a series of crises in the region, added the paper. The paper added that Israel knew it would enrage all the Palestinians in the West Bank, Gaza and the rest of the occupied territories. The paper ruled out any possibility of the United States exerting pressure on the Israeli hardline prime minister Benjamin Netanyahu to bow to the Oslo accords. The paper also called on the Arab countries to send the Oslo file to the United Nations to study it and pressure Israel to succumb to the signed agreements.

## Economic review

# Making economic policy work

Dr. Yusuf Mansur

EVEN AS Jordan begins to feel the real force and consequence of economic policy, such as the costs of opening trade and the related domestic interventions of the late eighties and early- to mid-nineties, the design and introduction of such policies is carried out with spontaneity and little or no prior design. In fact, policy-makers have become more reactive than pro-active (the latter being the desired state of affairs). A huge shortfall in the age of economic policy reform. What is called for is to institutionalise the function of policy-making through a pro-active economic policy forum.

The making of policy is an involved process, which requires political acumen plus the ability to sell the policy to the public. In other words, even though the design of policy is based on the use of sophisticated tools and voluminous data, the policy output must be a simple statement that is logical and clear to state- and laypersons alike. After all, it is the acceptance of policy by the wider public audience that matters the most, because their acceptance of such policy leads ultimately to their ownership of it (which in and of itself is not a small feat), thereby ensuring commitment and, later, successful implementation.

Consequently, a policy sold is a policy made, and structural adjustment would be speeded up and not only endured, but sought and implemented.

Unfortunately, the reverse is also true. A policy that is made in the hallways of power without the necessary "political marketing" that is required delivers "alien" policies that are tagged as World Bank or IMF-made-for-Jordan frameworks. Such policy can easily be rejected as alien and fought on the basis of national interest or patri-

otism. As a result, the policy is ultimately discarded as it becomes burdensome to its initiators; a tragedy that could usher in one economic disaster after another.

Pro-active economic policy can save Jordan hundreds of millions of dollars. For example, the Jordan Telecommunications Corporation (JTC), which in many experts' view should be the flagship of the privatisation drive, is still owned 100% by the government. Today, the discussion still centres on whether a strategic partner should have been chosen or not (even though four years ago US\$10 million were spent to put this issue to rest, and 11 years ago plans had already been made to sell it to the private sector). This issue, had there been a pro-active economic policy approach, would have been fully addressed and resolved by now. What went wrong? Public education had been and continues to be completely ignored. The worries and fears of the general populace should have been allayed by complete disclosure through the proper and institutional use of the media. The delays in selling the 40% share of JTC to a strategic partner have cost the budget several hundred million dollars and the future of the privatisation drive looks dim — the market now is almost saturated with national telecommunications carriers which are in literal competition with each other in a globally turbulent and bearish market.

Another example of the need for a pro-active policy forum, is the status of the Antitrust Law. Jordan's most significant piece of economic legislation yet; it is still not accepted by the public even though the public has consistently complained of price gouging and monopolistic practices that have stifled the development of commerce and investment for several decades. The Law, which is

still to be introduced, continues to face antagonism among industrialists due to their lack of knowledge of its contents and benefits (somehow, their participation was delayed until after the law was drafted as smuggled unofficial copies found their way to the press and their offices). Such attacks on good policies make them bad policies, regardless of how urgently they are needed.

However, no new piece of legislation has suffered as much as the Pension Fund Law. It was leaked to the media a few months ago, long before it was properly introduced or even debugged by the experts who wrote it, thus causing a furore as non-experts jumped the wagon of rent-seeking with vicious attacks on what could have been a perfectly sound law. Policy-makers, caught by surprise did not have a chance to defend it and it was promptly withdrawn until further notice from that Cabinet's agenda.

In an age where the issue of structural adjustment is a matter of making new policies and successfully implementing them, the art of policy-making should not be ignored or relegated to non-specialists as a trivial luxury. Moreover, policy should be made with transparency and public participation. On the 20th of last month, HRH Crown Prince Hassan gathered representatives of the people to discuss issues that spanned not only economic policy, but also the making and the design of peace. This spirit should be replicated at all levels within well-designed frameworks to guarantee that beneficial policies are not shelved because the public was ignored. The time has come for the creation of a pro-active policy forum that properly performs the task of analysis, design and selling of policy; let's not wait too long.

M. KAHIL



## LETTERS

### Protecting women

To the editor:

THE ARTICLE on women in Afghanistan (JT, September 7), like many others printed recently in the Jordan Times and the world's media, brings to light the plight of the Afghan women at the hands of illiterate trigger-happy bearded Talebans, in a country that has seen and survived mass destruction and loss of millions of lives in the last two decades of "Jihad." That is, during the Muslims' fight for freedom, which received, interestingly, strong moral and great material support from many freedom-loving countries of the West.

Nobody will dispute the right of women, and of all human beings, to protection from exploitation, degradation and disgrace. Women need and must be guaranteed this protection, not only in war-torn Afghanistan, but in all societies, without exceptions.

Isn't it ironic that such protection seems to be very needed for young working women in some of the most decent places of our times — the offices of the state governors, politicians and even presidents? After all, Ms. Lewinsky and Ms. Jones were not living in the wild world ruled by uncivilised fundamentalist Taleban.

Dr. Masud Ahmad Malik,  
 Sweileh.

The Jordan Times welcomes letters and contributions from its readers on any issue they wish to tackle. Letters intended for publication should contain the writer's full name and preferably address as well. Names can be withheld upon request but only under special circumstances. Letters are subject to editing and abridging.

# The Middle East and King Rehoboam's ghost

A sobering lesson on the abuse of power from the Old Testament still holds true for modern Israel, writes Roy E. Skinner

RELIGION HAS seldom been an easy subject to raise in any political or social environment. A forbidden subject in certain circles, it frequently results in bitter intolerant exchanges causing divisions in society and even families; not only in Northern Ireland.

In the Middle East for half of my professional life, I felt the influence of religion in local and across-border politics and therefore my work. Religious views slanted political discussion, the thrust of many military and terrorist operations and domestic policies affecting human rights.

In the closing hours of the Middle East war in June 1967, a delegation of non-Zionist Ultra-Orthodox Jews (Haredim) came to see me at my bomb-scarred windowless United Nations headquarters in Jerusalem. We met outside the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan-Israel Mixed Armistice Commission, in an area between the now non-recognised armistice demarcation lines running through the city. The rabbi leading the delegation asked me to give a petition to King Hussein. Such was outside my organisation's role.

The document's intent was to call upon Jordan to continue and win the war — to rid the Jewish people in Israel of their illegal and evil government. The rabbi declared that rule by a Muslim king was preferred to a government of Jews who had usurped the role of God. He said the new Israel would be established by their Messiah and not by power.

On my first trips outside the region I was repeatedly told in several Christian settings how privileged I should consider myself in that I had seen first hand the fulfilment of God's will; the taking of all of Palestine for the new Israel. I was told the rabbi had misinterpreted the scriptures.

For the next 30 years I was to experience closely the increasing religious and secular divisions within Israeli society and the confusions of many Christians elsewhere. Few shared my view that in the euphoria of war victory lay the seeds of occupation and moral defeat. Some who did so were Israeli Jews who still work for a non-exclusive national security based on a just peace.

In Jerusalem during some of the following years I saw the non-Zionist Ultra-Orthodox take advantage of the government authorities they had despised. West Jerusalem has become the religious ghetto of Israel. The lawmakers of the municipality have become hostages to demands for the observance of religious law and customs.

The rightist government of Israel has become the schizophrenic hostage to both the non-Zionist and the Zionist Ultra-Orthodox Jewish lobbies, its own propaganda and the ballot box. First to the powerful minority group of Zionist Ultra-Orthodox Jews, mostly armed immigrant settlers on Palestinian land, and their nationalist secular supporters. With and without a belief in a God supporting their claim to land, they believe strongly in the power of their guns and the voting power of a population made fearful for its security. Almost equal first are the demands for the legal implementation of Jewish religious law and custom throughout the land.

Secular Jews, the majority of the Israeli population, see their country divided on such issues and on the identity and existence of Israel itself. Heated debate continues on Jewish identity, and Jewish groups outside Israel ponder their Jewishness.

The exercise of universal morality and the practice of human rights have become repeated casualties in the thrust for nationhood and a one-sided security. The end as seen by many Israeli leaders, albeit representing a minority by number, until the U-

turn of the courageous former and assassinated prime minister Yitzhak Rabin, justified to their satisfaction whatever means were employed to maintain dominance over the displaced and occupied Palestinians.

Power is not authority. Eloquently expressed persuasion from a position of military and economic strength has no moral superiority over the appeal of the oppressed. Whether of Ireland, Germany, Iran or of Yugoslavia, the scars of history remain vivid.

The Jewish Bible — the Christian Old Testament — contains at least one lesson for all time. It matters little if one has the 12th-century Jewish Moses Maimonides' view of those scriptures (not to be taken completely literally) or the 20th-century Christian Jim Packer's view (the inerrancy of the scriptures is not to be questioned) echoing Vatican II.

The story is recorded of the unwise, incompetent son and successor to King Solomon in the 10th century BC. As told in 1 Kings:12 the new King Rehoboam decided to impose his authority over the whole kingdom of the Israelites. Ignoring the advice of wiser men, he tried to implement with oppression the wishes of his own ego-building supporters. He set the stage for civil war, the weakening and division of his country and its subsequent destruction by outsiders.

Exclusive religion and state never did mix well. Many citizens of John Calvin's 16th-century city-state of Geneva would have agreed. The Jewish Israeli peace activists share much with Muslims and the tolerant Christians of the Middle East (including Israeli Christians). Peace in the Middle East must be based on justice and not religion or on strength of possession or occupation. While the Nazi Holocaust against six million Jews and eight million others must not

be forgotten, it is a dangerous distortion to give it the status of a religious cult.

Many of those who preach with a Bible in one hand and a gun in the other, and many of those who cannot accept the relevance of the ancient Jewish religion in the 20th century, have made the memory of the Holocaust an uncomfortable common rallying point for political recognition, support and action. It dominates in the economic and cultural fields where all else may fail. The world's conscience cannot be held hostage to this atrocious blot made on humanity by the bestiality of others. Such would dishonour even those who died.

The Israeli minister for infrastructure, Ariel Sharon, when defence minister in the 1980s, told me that the Palestinians would never prevail. As the ailing leadership of the Palestinian Authority looks over its shoulders to the growing influence of the militant Hamas movement, Sharon may recall the financial and political encouragement given by his government to the watering of the movement's early roots in Gaza. At the same time, the Israeli leadership, in looking over its shoulders, may sense the stalking of the ghost of King Rehoboam. Recently a retired Israeli brigade commander and peace activist told me that the future for a united Israel was at serious risk from within.

The battered body of the Israel-Palestine peace process lies on the side of the Jericho road. It must not be joined by destroyed hopes and work of peace-seeking Israelis. Both groups of people need recognition and security but not one at the other's expense.

It is late but not too late to work for a binational state based on equal rights.

Roy E. Skinner is an Australian, a former director in the United Nations and author of Jerusalem to Baghdad 1967-1992 (1995).

— The Canberra Times



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The Concern

# Features

## The Madaba project made plain

**Ancient Ammonites & Modern Arabs: 5000 years in the Madaba Plains of Jordan**  
Edited by Gloria A. London and Douglas R. Clark American Centre of Oriental Research (ACOR), Amman, 1997, 72 pp., colour and black and white photos, illustrations, glossary, chronology. JD 14 (\$20).

THIS IMPRESSIVE volume is a quick-and-easy read of just a few hours, but it is also one of the best (and few) examples of how archaeologists can make their research results more easily accessible, understandable, and relevant to the general public. The Madaba Plains project is also an appropriate jumping off point for such an exercise, given the scope and depth of its research and the compelling continuity and parallels that one can trace in the cultures of this region during the past 5000 years or so.

The Madaba Plains is that area north and east of the Dead Sea that stretches from Amman in the north to Madaba and Tell Jalul in the south, comprising a series of excavated archaeological tells as well as several site and hinterland surveys. The Madaba Plains region falls within the wider ancient region of Ammon and northern Moab, bounded on the north by the Zarga River and on the south by the Wadi Mujib.

Important historical developments took place here in the Late Bronze and Iron Ages, as urban civilisations developed apace and the tribal confederations of the time started taking on 'national' identities and changing into the forerunners of modern 'nation-states'. The Ammonite and Moabite people from those periods are known from historical sources such as the Bible and Assyrian and Egyptian records, and their material culture is becoming better known thanks to many ongoing archaeological excavations.

This book 'explores the relationship between the human and physical environment in all the potential

dimensions of life, culture, and history in the Madaba Plains,' according to the introduction. It notes that 'at times settlements would intensify in number, but a decline in population would eventually follow,' as political and economic realities impacted on the course of human civilisation in this region.

The book focuses heavily on the major and continuing project excavations at Tell Hisban and Tell 'Umayri, south-west of Amman. Other project digs have taken place at Tell Jalul, Tell Jawa, and smaller sites within the Madaba Plains. The wide ranging nature of the project's components aims to document the relationship between the large and small ancient sites, between urbanites and rural folk, between farmers and pastoralists, and — most interestingly, in my view — between the human values, social relations and material lifestyles of people in antiquity and today. It also examines a variety of sectors, including plant and animal remains, geology, hydrology, and ethnography, and, most importantly, it tries to reconstruct the long ancient cycle of how people in this region adapted to their environment and the changing circumstances of their history. Archaeology is fascinating as a science and a scholarly discipline, but its full worth can only be attained if its practitioners make the link between their digging in the ground and the lives of people today.

This is one of the achievements of this volume, and it deserves careful study by other scholars who may be wondering how their work could receive more acknowledgement or support.

Following the introduction, chapter two reviews the natural environment and how people either protected or neglected their natural assets (neglect and deterioration have tended to be dominant in the last two millennia, resulting in the disappearance of ancient oak forests and their associated deer

and wild pig, for example).

Chapter three is about the people of ancient Ammon and modern Jordan — including a fascinating parallel between tribal settlement policies of the Ottomans last century and the Assyrians some 2500 years ago. A brief review of the successive cultures and civilisations since the Stone Age documented in this area is a capsule history of humankind itself, recounting the transitions from nomadic hunter-gatherers to settled farmers and villagers to urban traders living in walled towns. The ups and downs of the permanent ancient settlements at Tell 'Umayri and Hisban are neatly summarised, from the first one in the Chalcolithic era (around 4500-3000 BC) until the modern village.

Religion is the subject of the next chapter, which the text says has been 'a powerful social force' in antiquity as today. Modern Muslim and Christian practices are mentioned, and ancient gods and goddesses are also reviewed. The continuity and change evident in religious practices throughout the millennia are among the fascinating dimensions of archaeology, and this text captures that very nicely and with sensitivity.

The next chapter entitled 'Settlements' reviews the different manner in which people have lived in this region throughout history, including in open villages, walled towns, semi-nomadic camps,

underground caves, open agricultural complexes, large field towers, forts, and other facilities. This is the most fascinating chapter in the book, in my view, for it allows the non-specialist reader to appreciate the meaning of the often confusing remains of stone walls that archaeologists usually dig up. The discussion of some of the smaller sites,

many different means by which people found shelter throughout the millennia.

Seasonal cave dwellings, mobile tents, built stone and mudbrick homes, and other forms of shelter are discussed and explained. This section reveals the variety of ways in which hardy and flexible people have adapted to the environment over time — and still do so today.

The agricultural sector was usually the base of the economy in ancient times, and remains important today in this area, though permanent settlement has largely replaced seasonal nomadism as the dominant lifestyle of the local population. The scholars of the Madaba Plains project have promoted a field of study they call 'food systems,' which examines all the ways in which people over time have produced, processed, stored, exchanged, prepared, served, and eaten food. Among the captivating dimensions of the issues explored in this chapter are crop diversification, social mechanisms to promote community solidarity, the balance between herding and cultivation, and regional economic integration. It is perpetually fascinating that so many of the issues that were important to ancient societies in this region remain priority issues today — thus highlighting the relevance of studying the past for contemporary Jordanians and Arabs. One of the areas where archaeologists, anthropologists and other scholars can make a greater contribution to their world is to draw lessons from their documentation of ancient cultures

that are relevant to today's challenges.

Industry is also discussed as part of the ancient economy, including agriculture-related activities such as spinning and weaving, metallurgy, pottery and jewellery. The description of ancient spinning and weaving is most illuminating, and easily understandable thanks to some fine photos of artefacts and also of contemporary women working in these fields. The photos of ancient metal pieces, including jewellery, are both beautiful to view and very helpful to understanding the human cultural values of the times described.

The economy chapter concludes with a review of how limestone was important for food processing (wine and oil presses), storing water in underground cisterns and large pools, and building houses and other structures.

One of the strengths of this book is its constant focus on human beings and their values and behaviour, as the central actors in the archaeological saga, which is often lacking in many scholarly studies. Chapter 8 reviews the ancient diet and hospitality, which were related in the past as they are today in Arab and Jordanian culture. Writing and ancient scripts are the subject of chapter 9, which is a brief but rich overview of the Ammonite language and its links to other ancient languages.

Social Administration is the subject of chapter 10, which looks at modern government and ancient social status. The review of seal inscriptions and their meaning is especially interesting. The book ends with a chapter on traditional roles of men, women and children, and the modern family in Jordan today.

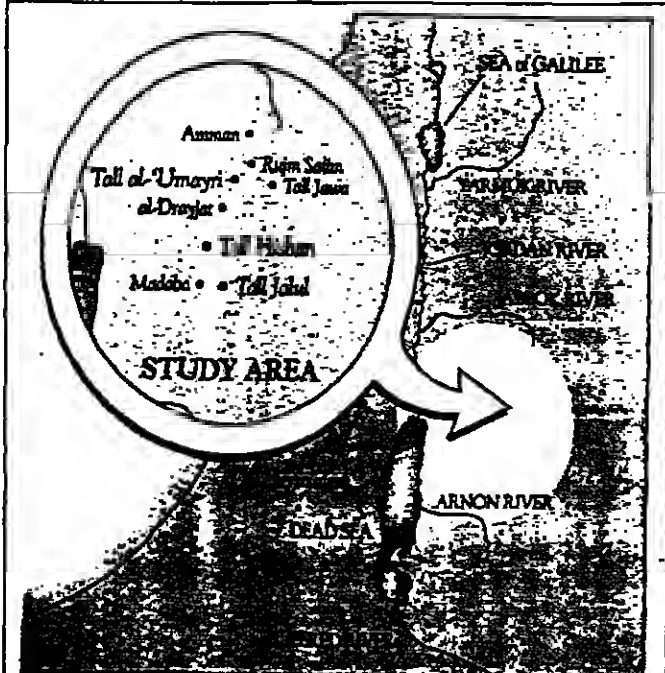
The conclusion notes that this study looks at the past but 'it is also a study of ourselves with an eye to the future.' It ends by noting correctly: 'The ancient Ammonites,

including their neighbours, the Canaanites, Edomites, Moabites, and Assyrians, are the ancestors not only of modern Jordanians, but in many ways of all of us.' This linkage between the study of the past and contemporary culture today throughout the world is not sufficiently made by many scholars, but it is explained well in this book. The book ends with a very useful glossary, a chronology of ancient periods, and three pages of suggestions for further reading.

This reasonably priced book makes a fine gift for visitors or family from abroad, and should be particularly useful for students who have no background in archaeology. Though it only has some 60 pages of text and photos, it packs a substantial amount of information into this space and illustrates the text well with photos of ancient remains and contemporary human activities.

Both ACOR and the Madaba Plains Project team are to be congratulated for producing this volume, which allows the general public to share in the facts and the fun of archaeology without having to wade through very technical material. The book clarifies many aspects of the past; it also reminds us that our lives today continue to be defined by values, constraints, and opportunities that have been constant features of our physical and human landscape for thousands of years.

The book is available from ACOR in Amman.



The area of the Madaba Plains Project fieldwork

## Americans use 'inappropriate' English

By Mark Egan Reuters

ERIK WENSBURG dreams of a day when Americans will say what they really think rather than spewing out amorphous buzz words that have become so pervasive even President Bill Clinton uses words that are "not appropriate." "The urge to imitate what other people say instead of saying with a little

thought whatever you actually mean is terrifically strong," language expert Wensberg told Reuters in an interview, adding with a chuckle: "It's possible at times to feel there is a current vocabulary of about 17 words. We don't seem to be afraid to bore each other." He should know, having spent every spare hour in the last few years toiling over the first revision of Wilson Follett's classic reference book

"Modern American Usage — A Guide." Among the most visible offenders recently, Wensberg said, was Clinton, who told the nation in a televised address in August that he had had a relationship with onetime White House intern Monica Lewinsky that was "not appropriate." "It seemed to me that, since he was willing to call the relationship 'wrong,' which he did in the next breath, he need not have

gone to the bother by using that fancy phrase 'not appropriate,' which implies a clinical distance that doesn't suit the case," Wensberg said. "He was, after all, talking about himself." Others also have bled at Clinton's usage, saying "not appropriate" should be reserved for such things as garish attire, not sex with a White House intern in her early 20s.

But Wensberg adds another thought: Strictly speaking, the only people who should be referring to a relationship in these terms is a therapist practising the fine art of psycho babble. "There's no one in the country who doesn't have an opinion about the (Clinton/Lewinsky) relationship now and couldn't call it by plainer words," he said.

Much has changed since "Modern American Usage" came out in 1966, and now more than ever Americans seem to have trouble figuring out what to call each other without offending anyone.

What should we call the poor? "The poor themselves know who they are but politicians and the press hardly know what to call them," Wensberg said of the conundrum.

"They were once called the 'underprivileged' but the trouble with this is that it implies they were privileged but just less so than other people. Then they became 'the disadvantaged,' which raised the same difficulty. Most recently they were called the 'underclass,' which made some people uncomfortable because it sounds awfully permanent," he said.

So what should we call them? Wensberg suggested we call them like they are — the poor.

The use of euphemisms — words which Wensberg says "ease a difficult situation, or a situation difficult to explain or not worth explaining" — is definitely on the rise.

Americans are at their wit's end trying to figure out what to call their romantic interest, he said. "My companion" has been tried out and "my partner" has been tried out. "My significant other" has been tried out and people began to laugh. Now one hears a great deal of "my friend," which leaves no one any the wiser. "As always in America, the issue of what to call the various ethnic and racial groups is still a tender spot.

"How does one choose among Negro, black, African American and Afro-American? It can be rather difficult and a number of excellent black writers declined to be called Afro-American or African American because they think these terms scant the history of blacks from the West Indies or imply an African allegiance that they don't feel," Wensberg said.

One change since the book was first published is the remarkably quick shift in replacing "Oriental," which was widely used just 15 years ago, to the now common "Asian."

Why was this? "Oriental, because it comes from the Latin word for east, was geocentric with the West," Wensberg said. "Whom are Orientals east of? The name seemed to derive from where inhabitants of the United States stood and that didn't go down well with a great deal of Asians." If Wensberg had to pick just one abuse of language, his desert island peeve, it would be what he sees as the computer industry's kidnapping and desecration of the word "icon." An "icon," Wensberg noted, is a painting, sculpture or carving of a religious personage — not something that can be found sprinkled about on a computer monitor. "Computer engineers, as they cobbled together computer language, abducted the word to refer to little drawings that signify computer options. Somehow then it became one-season on the word." On this topic, more than any other, Wensberg became wound up and offered the following as some of the "inappropriate" uses of the word "icon" he has seen recently in the press: "Old Coca-Cola bottles, bean-bag chairs, Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis, women in general, plastic bowling pins, the Corey Island boardwalk, wooden water tanks, plastic picture frames, a skyscraper, lamps, a civil-rights leader, a clothing store, Wagner, paper cups, movie actors, artificial Christmas trees, a radio commentator, a politician, a painter, the British theatre, a magazine rack, a nun, a singer, an office chair, a composer, popcorn — that's a partial list," he said, sounding like he could continue.

Which made a reporter feel slightly guilty for double-clicking on an "icon" to start writing this story.

## Post-Beijing strategies for change

### BOOK REVIEW

**Muslim Women and the Politics of Participation: Implementing the Beijing Platform**, edited by Mahnaz Afkhami and Erika Friedl  
New York: Syracuse University Press, 1997, 198 pages \$19.95

ACCORDING TO the editors of this book, The U.N.'s 4th World Conference on Women, held in Beijing in 1995, was a "threshold" moment in women's struggles for women's rights; 189 national governments signed a document that explicitly states that women's rights are human rights and that all issues are women's issues" (p. ix). The point now is to go far-ther across this threshold towards implementing the Beijing Platform for Action, but "nowhere is this more difficult than in Muslim countries where religious authorities, anti-Western and anti-modernist sentiments, Islamist agen-das, and weak economies form very strong barriers to women's realisation of their rights" (p. xiii).

This judgement should not be construed to mean that Afkhami and Friedl are anti-Islam. Rather their focus is on the interaction between power relations and social attitudes and practices which are often justified by religion: "Those whom customs privilege will seek to legitimise them by linking them firmly to theology or religiously inspired law" (p. xiv). In fact, the book includes essays from devout Muslims as well as secular feminists. While some of the authors evaluate the realisation of women's rights in the context of state policies, structural adjustment, globalisation and privatisation, others seek a radical reinterpretation of the Quran which would stipulate total equality between men and women. What is perhaps common to all the essays is emphasis on the importance of education. Part 1 of Muslim Women and the Politics of Participation analyses the impact of the Beijing Conference in countries such as Algeria, Afghanistan, Egypt, Iran, Libya, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia and Sudan. Part 2, entitled "Strategies for Change,"

is arguably the most interesting and diverse section of the book. Azar Nafisi writes about the power of imagination to shape reality, taking as an example Shahrzad's story-telling in One Thousand and One Nights, which not only saved her life, but led to more humane governance in the kingdom where she lived. On a more contemporary note, Eileeo Kutab explains the Women Studies Programme at Birzeit University, Palestine, which combines teaching, research, with community outreach and gender intervention. Other essays discuss personal status codes, developing women's leadership skills, and the need for revitalising the Beirut-based Institute for Women's Studies in the Arab World. Also included is a sample from a new manual for women's human rights education in Muslim societies. In another, highly original essay, Nimar Barazangi writes about Islamic higher learning for women. This involves "seeing Islam in its simplest, most direct form," since "deeper knowledge of the Islamic primary sources beyond the ritual religious acts, is the basis for Muslim women to effect a change" in their status (p. 43-44).

Part 3 of the book provides information about the international organisations and national machinery in various countries which can or do play a role in implementing the Beijing Platform for Action. These range from UNIFEM to the World Bank, including positive mention of Jordan's Strategy for the Advancement of Women.

All in all, this book stands out among recent anthologies on women due to its practical orientation. Most of the contributors are activists as well as scholars. Though they are obviously well-versed in the various theories about why women are oppressed, their focus here is forward-thinking and action-oriented: What can be done to promote change in women's situation in a way that will further the development of society as a whole?

By Sally Bland

## Career opportunities in a rapidly expanding insurance company

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## Daily Beat

A review of news from the Arabic Press

## Labour study finds participation of women to be mostly in voluntary work, public sector jobs

A NEW study has revealed that the rate of women's participation in the labour market is 23 per cent, less than expected compared to the percentage of women to the total population and in light of efforts exerted to increase their participation in the labour market.

The study, conducted by the Princess Basma Women's Resource Centre and the Public Administration Institute, showed that the involvement of women, who hold the general secondary certificate or the diploma certificate, at the low administrative level is higher than the women who hold baccalaureate, masters or doctorate degrees. In this context, the rate was found to be 3:1 compared to 3:2 when both men and women are taken into consideration for the same educational and employment levels.

As to the various work areas, women's participation was found to be highest in the voluntary sector at 39.3 per cent, followed by 35.7 per cent in the public sector and 10 per cent in the private sector. In high administrative posts, only one woman was found to be involved out of 1,000 of the total employees covered in the study. The highest rate was evident in the voluntary work and the lowest was in the public sector.

According to the study, there were only 10 women in leading posts at the institutions covered by the study. Two were working in the public sector, three in the voluntary social sector and five in the private sector where four of whom were running businesses that were owned by themselves or their families. Furthermore, the study pointed out that

the benefits of investment in education did not reflect on the participation of women in high administrative jobs or leading posts. In this context, 17.1 per cent of the women had educational qualification after the baccalaureate degree and only 6.4 per cent per cent of those were working.

Asked about the reasons that hinder the advancement of women in various types of jobs, decision-makers as well as women themselves specified irregular working periods and the lack of enough interest by the working women themselves in professional and educational development. Another reason was cited to be the negative perception of male bosses to the work of women.

An analysis of why working women lack continuity in their jobs showed family concerns, marriage, pursuing education and seeking better work opportunities as the main factors. As such, the study recommended training and rehabilitation programmes to boost the women's administrative capabilities.

The area where the women were found to have little participation were finance, economy, technical and legislative fields in addition to consultations, media, and diplomatic corps.

The study covered 118 Jordanian institutions of which 59 were from the public sector, 34 private and 25 non-governmental voluntary sector. The number of employees at those establishments totalled 188,249 persons who represent 55 per cent of the total workforce at the three sectors. The percentage of women in the sample study was 29.7 per cent (Al Ra'i).

## Saudi banks struggling with falling oil prices — Moody's

DUBAI (AFP) — Saudi Arabia's banks could start experiencing asset quality problems if oil prices remain low, the U.S. credit rating agency Moody's Investors Service said in a report.

No rating actions are anticipated "for the time being" but "some might occur" if oil prices were to continue at present level well into 1999, it added in its Banking System Outlook for Saudi Arabia, the world's top oil exporter.

"The financial strength of the Saudi banking system is being threatened by low oil prices, and if they remain at such level, banks could start experiencing asset quality problems later this year or in early 1999," it said.

"Lower business volumes are already affecting banks, as the government cancels major projects and the private sector responds by taking a cautious approach to new investment," it added.

The long term foreign currency deposits of the 11 Saudi banks are rated Baa3 by the agency which expects that "for the time being, the authorities would intervene to avoid any bank defaulting on its obligations, for both political reasons and to maintain their international reputation."

On the other hand, Moody's said it identified three banks "which have reasonable" chances of receiving a higher financial strength rating over the medium term: Saudi Hollandi Bank, National Commercial Bank and Riyadh Bank.

The current financial strength rating for the three banks is respectively D plus, D plus and D.

"However, it is difficult to envisage such actions being taken unless there are improvements in the prospects for oil prices or the economy," said Moody's.

The agency expects a 25 per cent decline in oil prices to translate into a loss of earnings in the region of 17.5 per cent for the Saudi government, as oil income accounts for some 70 per cent of the Saudi budgetary revenue.

## Jordan to go ahead with U.S. firm to establish large bromine project

By Tareq Ayyoub

AMMAN — The government will proceed with its agreement with an American firm to establish the largest factory in the Kingdom to produce bromine despite Israeli protests, Information Minister Nasser Judeh said Sunday.

Judeh, who was speaking at a weekly press briefing, told reporters that the agreement between the Jordan Potash Company and its subsidiary the Dead Sea Industries Company and the

Virginia-based Albemarle company, concluded on May 19, had the blessing of the government. "The [agreement] is in line with the Investment Encouragement Law which aimed at bringing direct investments to the country," the minister said. "The new venture will create hundreds of job opportunities in Jordan."

Judeh said the agreement followed extensive talks with three foreign firms, including one Israeli company. He added that the government decided to end

its talks with the Israeli firm.

"The negotiations with the Israeli firms ended long ago," Judeh said, adding that there were enough reasons to end the talks, some of them "political."

According to the \$120 million deal, Albemarle will finance 40 per cent of the project, and the rest of the capital will be raised through foreign loans.

The American firm will provide engineering technical, nology in addition to marketing and manufacturing expertise needed in the pro-

ject. The factory, which is expected to start its activities by the year 2001, is to produce 50,000 tonnes of bromine and 35,000 tonnes of calcium bromide annually.

Arab Potash Company predicts that the venture will earn an annual income of \$120 million.

Bromine is widely used for polymers, pharmaceuticals, photographic chemicals, water treatment and petroleum products.

## JORDAN FINANCIAL MARKET

HOUSING BANK CENTER AMMAN - 6162621

TELEPHONE: 607171 / 607179

ORGANIZED MARKET SHARE PRICE LIST FOR SUNDAY 13/09/1998



PAST 12 MONTHS HIGH	PAST 12 MONTHS LOW	COMPANY'S NAME	P / E	DIV.	NO. OF SHARES	NO. OF TRANSACTIONS	VALUE TRADED JD	OPEN PRICE	CLOSE PRICE	CHANGE
355.500	170.000	ARAB BANK	18.4	.89	11	170	38243	225.00	224.75	-.25
2.100	1.620	JOR. NATIONAL BK.	13.4	4.24	4	975	1608	1.65	1.65	-
3.200	1.030	BANK OF JORDAN	2	0.00	2	1475	1562	1.06	1.06	-
1.300	.870	MID. EAST INV. BK.	63.1	0.00	1	500	480	.97	.96	-.01
2.680	1.550	INDUSTRIAL DEV. BK.	11.1	6.56	2	750	1185	1.58	1.58	-
6.510	2.610	THE HOUSING BK.	19.2	3.30	13	7282	21972	3.05	3.05	-.02
3.450	1.760	JOR. KIWAT BANK	.8	0.00	1	250	448	1.79	1.79	-
3.910	1.690	JOR. ISLAMIC BANK	17.8	0.00	1	3050	5324	1.75	1.74	-.01
3.900	1.350	JOR. INV. FUND	22.9	2.36	9	10492	15399	1.48	1.49	.01
.930	.600	PHILADEL. INV. BK.	1	0.00	50	78407	56210	1.70	1.70	-.02
BANK SECTOR TOTALS			INDEX: 295.00	%CHG: -0.17	96	103321	142431			
2.850	1.740	JOR. FRENCH INSUR.	7.5	9.26	3	2200	5945	2.70	2.70	-
2.350	1.600	ARAB LIFE INSUR.	9.5	0.00	1	100	198	1.90	1.98	+.08
INSURANCE SECTOR TOTALS			INDEX: 127.48	%CHG: +0.16	4	2300	6143			
2.240	1.470	JOR. ELECTRIC PWR.	9.6	5.57	20	10516	15563	1.48	1.48	-
1.480	.740	NATL. PORTFOLIO	31.5	0.00	16	17350	13583	.78	.79	+.01
1.120	.680	REAL ESTATE INV.	14.3	0.00	1	1000	2190	.73	.73	-
.590	.280	JOR. PETROL. RESERVARY	10.3	8.42	6	150	290	1.29	1.29	-
4.600	1.880	ARAB INTL. INV. EDUC.	9.7	2.04	7	7000	13720	1.97	1.96	-.01
1.050	.890	SARNA EDUCATION	20.5	0.00	3	1500	1340	.89	.89	-
1.830	1.060	UNIFIED CO.	5.3	9.24	30	13050	15343	1.14	1.19	+.05
SERVICE SECTOR TOTALS			INDEX: 108.79	%CHG: +0.05	80	53466	62304			
1.160	1.000	ATTACHEE	9	0.00	1	1000	1100	1.10	1.10	-
3.900	1.840	JOR. CEMENT FACT.	11.6	5.61	3	1300	2548	1.96	1.96	-
4.110	1.600	JOR. PHOSPHATE MINES	16.9	0.00	1	100	160	1.60	1.60	-
6.500	4.070	ARAB POTASH CO.	19.7	5.00	5	20000	80490	4.10	4.00	-.10
1.250	10.050	JOR. PETROL. RESERVARY	10.3	8.42	6	150	290	1.29	1.29	-
1.680	1.060	INDUSTRIAL COMM. AGR.	67.9	0.00	4	879	1009	1.15	1.15	-
5.740	2.400	ARAB PHARM. MANF.	7.4	2.79	28	28396	76237	2.67	2.69	+.02
5.590	1.100	JOR. CERAMIC IND.	5.0	8.70	5	2500	2890	1.14	1.15	.01
1.420	.560	RPIA INDUSTRIES	9	0.00	1	900	570	.63	.63	-
6.350	4.700	DAIR ALDAMA DV. INV.	6.8	6.22	6	4330	24449	5.64	5.63	-.01
.570	.390	LIVESTOCK & POULTRY	14.2	0.00	12	18500	7760	.42	.42	-
1.020	.670	ARAB PAPER CONV. TRD.	24.4	0.00	2	5500	4460	.81	.80	-.01
.620	.320	NATIONAL INDOS.	9	0.00	1	500	225	.45	.45	-
.590	.300	INTERFER. PETRO. CHEM.	9	0.00	27	35850	12906	.35	.35	-
.690	.370	JOR. ROCKWOOL THDS.	9	0.00	2	400	148	.37	.37	-
1.760	.760	UNIV. CERN. INDOS.	8.8	9.30	2	200	172	.83	.86	+.03
2.300	.700	NATL. CABLE WIRE. MPAC	34.7	0.00	6	3750	2775	.72	.74	+.02
.730	.380	JOR. SULPHO-CHRM	8.1	0.00	42	75400	32250	.41	.43	+.02
1.250	.530	UNIV. MOON INDOS.	11.0	8.70	20	20200	13902	.66	.69	+.03
1.080	.600	JOR. NEW CABLE CO.	9.5	14.93	19	25750	17094	.65	.67	+.02
1.580	1.150	EL. & EAY READY WEAR	42.6	0.00	1	150	182	1.20	1.21	+.01
1.310	.910	UNIV. TOROCCO	6.5	6.27	5	2400	2222	.92	.93	+.01
1.220	.860	UNION CH. & VEG.	11.3	0.00	2	1100	1122	1.05	1.02	-.03
.890	.660	JORDAN STEEL	9.8	7.95	17	21050	18097	.85	.88	+.03
.710	.580	NAT. ALUMINIUM	35.2	0.00	75	123970	87984	.69	.71	+.02
.670	.530	HIG. EAST COMPLEX	10.3	0.00	3	3000	2570	.85	.87	+.02
INDUSTRIAL SECTOR TOTALS			INDEX: 80.21	%CHG: -0.77	307	402301	397073			
GRAND TOTAL			INDEX: 177.39	%CHG: -0.29	487	561388	607950			
PARALLEL MARKET SHARE PRICE LIST FOR SUNDAY 13/09/1998										
N 1.050	.880	EXPORT & F.M. INK. 75X	16.3	0.00	1	2000	1260	.89	.88	-.01
.490	.270	CENTRAL GEN. STORAGE	9	0.00	1	100	37	.39	.37	-.02
.800	.500	UNION INV.	9	0.00	31	64900	34452	.53	.54	+.01
.480	.280	ARAB F.M. INVEST.	9	0.00	1	1000	2600	.26	.26	-
N .260	.090	JOR. INDOS. MATCH-JERCO	9	0.00	7	21500	2325	.10	.11	+.01
.600	.270	ARAB FOOD & MED.	6	0.00	4	2750	876	.31	.31	-
.430	.230	ARAB INTL. INV. TRD.	27.6	0.00	4	4750	1140	.29	.29	-
.580	.260	NATL. MULT. RES. MANICO	9	0.00	23	33745	9786	.29	.29	-
1.350	1.130	UNION TOROCCO 87.52	12.6	6.35	6	2850	5248	1.90	1.97	+.07
N .950	.480	YDOS. EPO.	9	0.00	1	8000	1760	.22	.22	-
N .540	.320	ADVANCED PHARM. IND.	9	0.00	11	10500	5775	.55	.55	-
.500	.320	PEARL SNM. P. CONV.	3	0.00	1	250	85	.36	.34	-.02
.870	.430	HATL. POLYEST.	6	0.00	4	12540	6269	.51	.50	-.01
N .950	.330	OPTICAL HEARING CO.	9	0.00	4	4925	1829	.37	.38	+.01
N 1.000	.690	AL-KERIAL PRINTING CO	10.7	10.82	6	2650	1855	.70	.70	-
GRAND TOTAL			INDEX: 115	%CHG: -0.77	115	182786	76609			

1 : New 12 months high  
2 : New 12 months low  
3 : Stock dividend during the past 12 months  
4 : Listed during the past 12 months  
5 : P/E ratio is 100 or more  
6 : Negative P/E  
7 : Earning is zero or N/A for the most recent year

## IDB sets up \$1.5 billion fund for infrastructure projects

RIYADH (AFP) — Islamic Development Bank (IDB) has set up a \$1.5 billion fund to finance infrastructure projects in member states, a statement released by the bank said.

The fund's aim is to "draw on the capital markets resources to cover the needs of member countries' infrastructure projects, especially energy, telecommunications and transport," the bank said after a meeting of the board in the Red Sea port of Jeddah.

IDB also gave grants totalling more than \$210 million to development projects in Muslim states and Muslim communities, the statement said.

Grants include \$29 million to Oman to expand a power station, \$19 million to Indonesia for irrigation and \$218,000 of scholarships for Sudanese students to study abroad.

## HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 1998

Black Tribune Media Services, Inc.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) A friend and your conscience are pushing you to get involved. There's work to be done and it's calling to you. You don't know how you're going to accomplish this, but it's important that you do. Somebody needs what you can provide. Figure out what you can do and provide it.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) It'll be easy to learn today. You're able to remember what you read and what other people do. If you know an expert at something you want to learn, initiation would be especially effective. Besides, it's the sincerest form of flattery. In addition to gaining new skills, you could gain a new friend.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) People who make lots of money tend to create jobs because they have money to spend and things they don't want to do. Wouldn't you like to be in that position? You'd be great at creating new jobs, and you might be able to think of one today. That will be your motivation for gathering in the money that's due you.

CANCER: (June 22 to July 21) To maximise conditions in your life now, finish up something you've been meaning to complete. Get it out of your life. This could be an old project, an old worry, an old fear. Whatever it is, it's time to get rid of it. It could even be something that you'll sell at a profit. Does that give you any ideas?

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) People are making demands on you and you don't like it. You like to be the one making the demands. Well, to be a good leader, you have to know how to follow. Today, you might as well be cheerful about it. You'll make a much better impression and it looks like you'll make more money, too. That ought to motivate you!

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) Get together with your team and figure out what each of you is going to do. You're the perfect person to get that organised. Once you're clear what needs to be done, you can communicate it to the others. Then everybody will be clear and the whole thing will turn into play instead of work.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) The moon is in Cancer, and Cancer often prods Libra to take action. Consequently, your relationships with people with Cancer in their charts can sometimes be confrontational. The truth is, they do have a lot to teach you. Watch for the lesson today and get it as quickly as possible.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) You're powerful and dynamic, and your intuition should be right on target today, especially if you're thinking of ways to serve others. If you notice yourself getting vindictive or petty, think instead about serving others. Who out there needs something you can provide? It'll snap you right out of that mood.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) Do you know how much money you have? Do you have assets you haven't counted yet? This is the perfect day to figure out what you're worth. If you need help, ask for it, but start by doing some basic counting yourself. Get your affairs in order now and you'll be very happy later.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) Listen carefully and you may hear the call of destiny. It's urging you to take action, possibly including a change of location. You're about to embark on a new adventure of your own design. You've been talking about it for quite some time, and now you can actually make it happen.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) It looks like you have bills to pay. That generally makes you uncomfortable. But in this case it could be inspirational. Remember, the mother of invention, remember? You're an inventive person. Put all that studying you've been doing to work by coming up with another brilliant idea. One that pays.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) The sun's in Virgo, which can be annoying at times. Virgo always gives you helpful advice about how you should improve yourself, but today the shoe is on the other foot. You can give the Virgos of interesting insights. You're full of their right now and most of them are right on target.

Birthstone of September: Sapphire — Lapis Lazuli

## JORDAN MARKETPLACE \*\*\* JORDAN MARKETPLACE \*\*\* JORDAN MARKETPLACE

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## U.S. Open

## Davenport wins U.S. Open title on mother's birthday

NEW YORK (AP) — Mom always was there, driving Lindsay Davenport to tennis lessons and providing emotional support, even when others scoffed at her daughter's ability.

band winners down the lines and won 12 of the last 15 points in a 6-3, 7-5 victory over defending champion Martina Hingis.

Davenport, the first American-born women's

now," Davenport said as she accepted the check, breaking into a laugh as she looked at her mom in the players' box. After hitting a backhand volley winner on match point, the champion put her hands

when I started playing tennis," Davenport said. "I think I've had three or four people in my career that have stuck with me the whole time and believed in me since Day 1."

A few hours after Davenport defeated the world's top women's player, the men's No. 1 lost as well. Four-time champion Pete Sampras, hobbled by a strained left quadriceps, was ousted 6-7 (8-10), 6-4, 3-6, 6-4, 6-3 by defending champion Patrick Rafter in the semifinals.

Sampras, aiming for a record-tying 12th Grand Slam singles title, was hurt late in the third set and played the rest of the three-hour match with bandages around his leg.

The third-seeded Rafter will face unseeded Mark Philippoussis in an all-Australian final Sunday. Philippoussis had 21 aces in a 6-1, 6-4, 5-7, 6-4 victory over No. 10 Carlos Moya.

Philippoussis won 85 percent of his first-serve points, hitting some serves at 210 kph. His second serves were as fast as 193 kph.

Davenport is not the fastest player on the women's tour.

Though she's extremely powerful, she's not as athletic as players such as Venus Williams, whom she defeated in the semifinals. And she's never been surrounded by the hype attached to some of her peers.

Though she said capturing the U.S. Open always was her biggest goal, Davenport said winning a Grand Slam title was not essential to make her life complete.

"I always said that if I never won one, I'd still be a great person and I'd still like myself and I'd still keep on playing tennis," she said. "I feel like it's a great, great script."

And I think not a lot of people ever picked me to win a Grand Slam."

Davenport is the first American-born woman to win the singles championship since Chris Evert won the last of her six titles in 1982. Martina Navratilova, a native of Czechoslovakia, won the title as a naturalized U.S. citizen in 1983-84 and 1986-87.

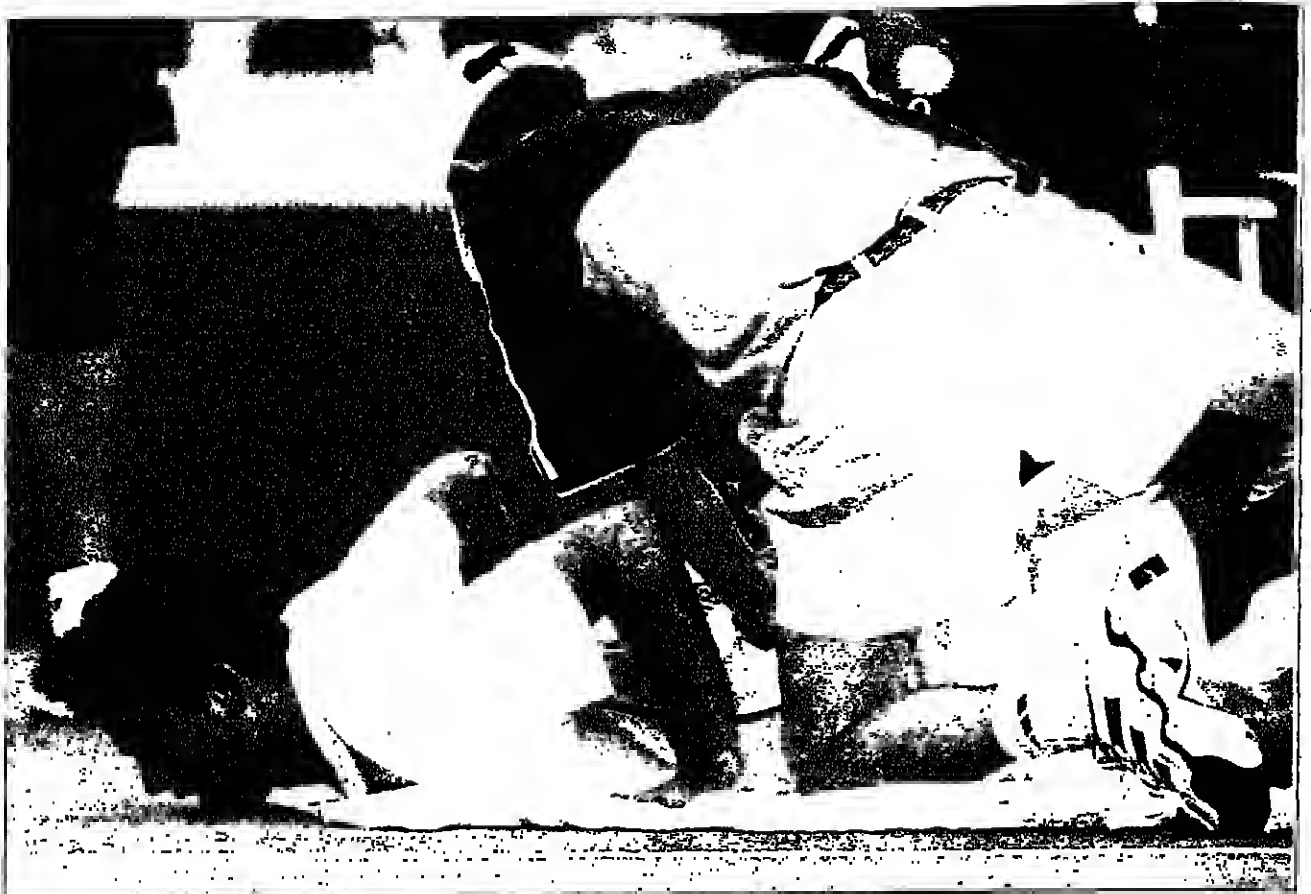
Hingis, 17, who kept her No. 1 world ranking despite the loss, was trying to become the youngest woman to retain a U.S.

Open title. She had won her previous three Grand Slam finals.

This is the first year since 1990 that four different women have won the Grand Slam singles titles — Hingis won the Australian Open, Arantxa Sanchez-Vicario won the French Open and Jana Novotna won at Wimbledon.

On a sun-drenched day, Davenport got an early service break for a 2-1 lead in the first set by dictating play with sharp volleys and passing shots. Hingis was handcuffed by the wildness that bothered her throughout the tournament.

## Sampras suffered muscle pull, failed to reach the title match



Number one seeded Pete Sampras of the U.S. is rubbed down by his trainer during his semi-final match against number three seeded Patrick Rafter of Australia Saturday at the U.S. Open in Flushing Meadows, New York. Rafter defeated Sampras 6-7 (8/10), 6-4, 2-6, 6-4, 6-3. (AFP photo)



Number three seeded Patrick Rafter of Australia fires a backhand to number one seeded Pete Sampras of the U.S. during the semi-finals Saturday at the U.S. Open in Flushing Meadows, New York. Rafter won 6-7 (8/10), 6-4, 2-6, 6-4, 6-3. (AFP photo)



Lindsay Davenport of the U.S. kisses the trophy after her victory over top seed and defending champion Martina Hingis of Switzerland Saturday in the final of the U.S. Open in Flushing Meadows. Davenport won 6-3, 7-5 (AFP photo)

And Ann Davenport was there Saturday, celebrating her birthday, when Lindsay won the U.S. Open.

Playing in her first Grand Slam final, Davenport smashed forehand and back-

hand winners down the lines and won 12 of the last 15 points in a 6-3, 7-5 victory over defending champion Martina Hingis.

Davenport, the first American-born women's

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Mark Philippoussis of Australia celebrates his win over number ten seeded Carlos Moya of Spain Saturday at the U.S. Open in Flushing Meadows, New York. Philippoussis won 6-1, 6-4, 5-7, 6-4. (AFP photo)

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## U.S. Open at a glance

NEW YORK (AP) — Highlights of Saturday's play in the \$14 million U.S. Open tennis championships:

Weather: Sunny and warm, turning cloudy later in the day, with a high of 87.

Attendance: 21,829.

Results: Lindsay Davenport won the women's singles championship, beating defending champion Martina Hingis 6-3, 7-5. It was Davenport's first Grand Slam singles title. Mark Philippoussis topped French Open champion Carlos Moya 6-1, 6-4, 5-7, 6-4 to advance to his first Grand Slam final.

He will face defending champion Patrick Rafter in the first all-Australian men's final since 1970. Rafter beat four-time champion Pete Sampras 6-7 (8-10), 6-4, 2-6, 6-4, 6-3, ending Sampras' bid for a record-tying 12 Grand Slam men's singles titles. In juniors doubles, Americans K.J. Hippensteel and David Martin took the boys' title while Kim Clijsters of Belgium and Eva Dyrberg of Denmark won the girls'.

State of the Day: Of the combined 16 Grand Slam single finals berths this year, only Martina Hingis, the

Australian Open champion and U.S. Open runner-up, appeared more than once.

Quote of the Day: "You never know what your response or your reaction's going to be. You can't put into words how much it means, playing for so many

years and being a pro for so many years, and this being the goal always. It seriously was the greatest feeling you can experience being a professional athlete."

Lindsay Davenport, on winning her first Grand Slam singles title.

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	Sophie Marceau in Leo Tolstoy's ANNA KARENINA Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30	NASSER Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30	Comedian Adel Imam .. in AL ZA'EEM Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 6:30, 9:30 Additional shows Thursday and Friday evenings at 12:30	CONCORD '1' NASSER Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30 CONCORD '2' UP CLOSE & PERSONAL Shows: 3:30, 5:30 only	ABDOUN www.cns.com.jo/Galleria GODZILLA Shows: 3:30, 6:15, 8:30	ABDOUN www.cns.com.jo/Galleria CITY OF ANGELS Shows: 3:30, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30	WATCH OUT FOR THE NEW PLAY Terrorism







